

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph spanning pages 22 and 23 as follows:

A schematic representation of a system, incorporating the present invention, is shown at 10 in Fig. 1. The system 10 includes a movable element 12 that may be virtually any type of element, such as a closure element, in either a static or dynamic environment, that is movable between first and second different positions relative to a frame support 14, and releasably maintainable in a predetermined position relative to the frame support 14. The movable element 12 may be repositionable by movement pivotably, translationally, etc., relative to the frame support 14 between the first and second positions. An operating mechanism 16 is mounted on the movable element 12. The operating mechanism 16 has an associated latch system 18 having (a) a latched state, wherein the latched system 18 engages a strike element 20 on a strike assembly 22 on the frame support 14 so as to maintain the movable element 12 in a predetermined position and (b) a released state wherein the latch system 18 can be disengaged from the strike element 20 so as to allow the movable element 12 to be moved from the predetermined position. The latch system 18 is changed from the latched state into the released state through an actuating system 24 mounted upon a base 26 on the movable element 12. The actuating system 24 includes at least a first link 28, in the form of an elongate rod with a substantially rigid, fixed shape, which operatively connects to the latch system 18, and a second link 30 which changes the at least first link 28 from a first position into a second position to thereby change the latch system 18 from the latched state into the released state. With the actuating system 24 in a first state, the second link is in a first orientation, the at least first link 28 is in the first position, and the latch system 18 is in the latched state. With the

actuating system 24 in a second state, the second link 30 is in a second orientation, the at least first link 28 is in the second position, and the latch system 18 is in the released state.